



Brian Sandoval, Governor Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director Rebecca L. Palmer, SHPO

April 15, 2016

Ms. Arlee Fisher
Facility Planner, VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System
Department of Veterans Affairs
Ioannis A. Lougaris VA Medical Center
975 Kirman Avenue
Reno, NV 89502-2597

Re:

Revised Submission to Demolish Existing East Campus Buildings at the VASNHCS Facility, Reno,

Washoe County, Nevada (UT 2016-4250)

Dear Ms. Fisher:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the subject documents in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended. Thank you for submitting a revised report, which includes additional information requested in our letter dated March 18, 2016.

Project Description

The proposed undertaking includes the demolition of a collection of buildings located on the east side of the VASNHCS campus in Reno. These buildings have exceeded their life expectancy, are not compliant with current VA space allocations, and contain numerous utility deficiencies. Buildings slated for demolition include 15A (constructed in 1997), 15B (1997), F (1989), K (1995), and 138 (2008). The proposed project will demolish and remove everything extant in the building locations, including above-surface structures and equipment, subsurface pipes, and electrical equipment. When demolition concludes, the area will be filled with soil and covered with gravel. At this time, there are no proposed plans for construction to replace the demolished buildings. Existing VA parking lots located east of Kirman Avenue and the parking lanes along Belli Drive will be used for construction staging. If any aspects of the project change, VASNCHS will notify the SHPO for additional review.

Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The VA has defined the Area of Potential Effect (APE) as the immediate construction area and temporary staging areas. The APE has been buffered to account for potential visual effects to nearby historic properties, extending north to E. Taylor Street, west to Kirman Avenue, south to Burns Street, and east to Wilkinson Avenue. The SHPO concurs that the APE, as defined by the VA, is adequate for the proposed undertaking.

Identification Effort for Historic Properties

The VA identified the following resources over 50 years of age and located within the APE:

SHPO Resource Number	Street Address	Date Built	NRHP Eligibility	NRHP Criteria
	Belli Addition Historic District	1940-1965	Eligible	С
B13803	700-710 E. Taylor Street	c.1953	Eligible	С

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SHPO Resource	Street Address	Date Built	NRHP	NRHP Criteria
Number			Eligibility	
B13806	735 Belli Drive	c.1952	Eligible	С
B13807	765 Belli Drive	c.1952	Eligible	С
B13805	829 Belli Drive	c.1940	Not Eligible	n/a
B13812	845 Belli Drive	c.1958	Not Eligible	n/a
B13813	865 Belli Drive	c.1958	Not Eligible	n/a
B13814	885 Belli Drive	c.1946	Not Eligible	n/a

The following properties more than 50 years of age were additionally identified by the VA, and because they have not been evaluated, the VA has chosen to treat them as eligible under all four of the Secretary's Criteria:

SHPO Resource	Street Address	Date Built	NRHP	NRHP
Number			Eligibility	Criteria
	920 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	926 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	932 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	940 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	946 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	952 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	960 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	966 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D

The following properties, all more than 50 years of age, were identified by the VA in the submission as "to be demolished." The SHPO assumes that the demolition is not related to the subject undertaking since it is not mentioned in the project description. If this is not correct, please notify the SHPO at your earliest convenience. Because these resources have not been evaluated, the VA has chosen to treat them as eligible under all four of the Secretary's Criteria:

SHPO Resource Number	Street Address	Date Built	NRHP Eligibility	NRHP Criteria
	890 Belli Drive	1964		
	929 Wilkinson Avenue	1964	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	935 Wilkinson Avenue	1963	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	941 Wilkinson Avenue	1964	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	951 Wilkinson Avenue	1963	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	961 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D
	965 Wilkinson Avenue	1950	Treat as Eligible	A, B, C, D

The SHPO would concur with the identification effort, as outlined above, as well as with the corresponding eligibility determinations.

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Determination of Effect

The SHPO concurs with the VA's determination that the proposed undertaking will pose no adverse effect to historic properties within the project area.

Native American Consultation

The SHPO notes that consultation with the affected Native American tribes has been initiated. If this consultation results in the identification of properties of religious or cultural significance that could be affected by the undertaking, the VA must consult with this office concerning the National Register eligibility and possible effects of the undertaking.

Consultation with Interested Parties

The SHPO notes that the VA has consulted with representatives of the City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, Historic Reno Preservation Society, Nevada Architectural History Alliance, Preserve Nevada, and the Nevada Historical Society. Additionally, the VA placed a public notice regarding the proposed project in the *Reno Gazette-Journal*.

Should you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact SHPO staff architectural historian ZoAnn Campana at (775) 684-3439 or by e-mail at zcampana@shpo.nv.gov.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Palmér

State Historic Preservation Officer